

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A retransmission control method in a multicast service providing system in which an information delivery apparatus transmits multicast information to radio terminals within a service area of the information delivery apparatus via a radio section, some of the radio terminals being configured to send a request for retransmission of the multicast information in case of an error and others of the radio terminals being configured to not send the request for retransmission, said method comprising:

(a) determining whether respective of the radio terminals within the service area is designated as a retransmission-permitted terminal permitted for retransmission of the multicast information, and determining by the information delivery apparatus, in accordance with a ~~parameter representing a quality of communications of received level of a control signal sent from each of the radio terminals at a time of initial connection between each radio terminal and the information apparatus, the received level being measured without receiving a message or a request for retransmission from the radio terminals~~ by the information delivery apparatus, that at least one of the radio terminals is predetermined as being the retransmission-permitted terminal permitted for retransmission of the multicast information;

(b) notifying a retransmission designation status to the retransmission-permitted terminal, and delivering, when a request for retransmission of the multicast information sent by one of the radio terminals is received, the multicast information to said one of the radio terminals; and

(c) changing one of the radio terminals designated as being the retransmission-permitted terminal, to a retransmission-inhibited terminal which is not permitted for retransmission of the multicast information, and changing another of the radio terminals

within the service area to a retransmission-permitted terminal based on a status of retransmission requests received from the radio terminals, such that correlation between reception errors occurring at the originally designated retransmission-permitted terminal and reception errors occurring at the newly changed retransmission-permitted terminal is reduced by said changing of said one of the originally designated radio terminals to the retransmission-inhibited terminal and said changing of said another of the radio terminals to the retransmission-permitted terminal.

Claim 2 (Original): The retransmission control method as claimed in claim 1, wherein: the step (a) comprises a step of determining, at the information delivery apparatus, said at least one radio terminal; and the retransmission control method further comprises a step of notifying said at least one radio terminal that a request for retransmission is permitted.

Claim 3 (Original): The retransmission control method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the step (a) comprises a step of determining, at each radio terminal, whether its own terminal is permitted to be placed in retransmission control.

Claim 4 (Original): The retransmission control method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the step (a) determines a plurality of radio terminals to be placed in retransmission control.

Claim 5 (Original): The retransmission control method as claimed in claim 1, wherein: the step (a) comprises a step of grouping radio terminals in the service area on the basis of unique information assigned to the radio terminals; and the step (a) determines at least one radio terminal on the basis of grouping radio terminals.

Claim 6 (Original): The retransmission control method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the step (a) determines at least one radio terminal on the basis of a quality of communications between the information delivery apparatus and each of the radio terminals.

Claim 7 (Original): The retransmission control method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the step (a) determines at least one radio terminal on the basis of distances between the information delivery apparatus and the radio terminals.

Claim 8 (Original): The retransmission control method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the step (a) determines at least one radio terminal on the basis of directions of the radio terminals from the information delivery apparatus.

Claim 9 (Original): The retransmission control method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the step (a) determines at least one radio terminal on the basis of moving speeds of the radio terminals.

Claim 10 (Canceled).

Claim 11 (Original): The retransmission control method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a step of changing said at least one radio terminal to another radio terminal when said at least one radio terminal terminates reception of the multicast information.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): An information delivery apparatus for use in a multicast service providing system in which the information apparatus transmits multicast information to radio terminals within a service area via a radio section, some of the radio terminals being configured to send a request for retransmission of the multicast information in case of an error and others of the radio terminals being configured to not send the request for retransmission, said information delivery apparatus comprising:

(a) a first unit configured to determine whether respective of the radio terminals within the service area is designated as a retransmission-permitted terminal permitted for retransmission of the multicast information, said first unit also being configured to determine in accordance with a ~~parameter representing a quality of communications of received level of a control signal sent from~~ each of the radio terminals at a time of initial connection between each radio terminal and the information delivery apparatus, the received level being measured ~~without receiving a message or a request for retransmission from the radio terminals by the~~ information delivery apparatus, that at least one of the radio terminals predetermined, to be the retransmission-permitted terminal permitted for retransmission of the multicast information;

(b) a second unit configured to notify a retransmission designation status to the retransmission-permitted terminal, and delivering, when a request for retransmission of the multicast information sent by one of the radio terminals is received, the multicast information to said one of the radio terminals; and

(c) a third unit configured to change one of the radio terminals designated as being the retransmission-permitted terminal, to a retransmission-inhibited terminal which is not permitted for retransmission of the multicast information, and changing another of the radio terminals within the service area to a retransmission-permitted terminal based on a status of retransmission requests received from the radio terminals, such that correlation between

reception errors occurring at the originally designated retransmission-permitted terminal and reception errors occurring at the newly changed retransmission-permitted terminal is reduced by said changing of said one of the originally designated radio terminals to the retransmission-inhibited terminal and said changing of said another of the radio terminals to the retransmission-permitted terminal.

Claim 13 (Original): The information delivery apparatus as claimed in claim 12, wherein the first unit determines a plurality of radio terminals to be placed in retransmission control.

Claim 14 (Canceled).

Claim 15 (Previously Presented): The information delivery apparatus as claimed in claim 13, further comprising a fourth unit managing status of retransmission requests sent by radio terminals placed in the retransmission control, the third unit changing said at least one radio terminals on the basis of the status of retransmission requests managed by the fourth unit.

Claim 16 (Currently Amended): A radio terminal configured to receive multicast information transmitted from an information delivery apparatus via a radio section, said radio terminal comprising:

a first unit configured to determine whether the radio terminal is notified from the information delivery apparatus as being a retransmission-permitted terminal which is permitted for retransmission of the multicast information, and changing another of the radio terminals within the service area to a retransmission-permitted terminal and said first unit

also being configured to determine in accordance with a ~~parameter representing a quality of communications of received level of a control signal sent from each of the radio terminals at a time of initial connection between each radio terminal and the information delivery apparatus, the received level being measured without receiving a message or a request for retransmission from the radio terminals by the information delivery apparatus,~~ that at least one of the radio terminals is identified[[.]] by the information delivery apparatus as being the retransmission-permitted terminal permitted for retransmission of the multicast information; and

a second unit configured to send a request for retransmission of the multicast information to the information delivery apparatus in case of an error when it is determined that the radio terminal is notified as being the retransmission-permitted terminal, such that correlation between reception errors occurring at the originally designated retransmission-permitted terminal and reception errors occurring at the newly changed retransmission-permitted terminal is reduced by said changing of said one of the originally designated radio terminals to the retransmission-inhibited terminal and said changing of said another of the radio terminals to the retransmission-permitted terminal.

Claim 17 (Original): The radio terminal as claimed in claim 16, wherein the first unit determines whether its own terminal is placed in retransmission control on the basis of given information sent by the information delivery apparatus.

Claim 18 (Original): The radio terminal as claimed in claim 16, wherein the first unit determines whether its own terminal is placed in retransmission control on the basis of a quality of communications with the information delivery apparatus.

Claim 19 (Original): The radio terminal as claimed in claim 16, further comprising a third unit which corrects the multicast information by part of the multicast information sent by the information delivery apparatus retransmitted in response to a request for retransmission by the second unit when the first unit determines that its own terminal is placed in retransmission control and which corrects the multicast information by part of the multicast information sent by the information delivery apparatus transmitted in response to a request for retransmission by another radio terminal when the first unit determines that its own terminal is placed out of retransmission control.